

## Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 SS-15 SR-02 ORM-01 DODE-00

CIAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 AID-05 FDRE-00 H-02

IO-10 PM-03 VO-03 L-02 SP-02 /063 W

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O 011217Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3645

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 7858

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, SREF, CB, TH

SUBJ: CAMBODIAN REFUGEES IN THAILAND

REF: A. BANGKOK 7650

B. BANGKOK 7413

C. STATE 100938

D. STATE 084127

SUMMARY: WE URGENTLY REQUIRE PROMPT AND FAVORABLE REPLIES TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTELS A AND B CONCERNING KHMER REFUGEES WHO WILL REMAIN THAILAND AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF KHMER REFUGEES EVACUATED BY THE USG IN EAGLE PULL. END SUMMARY.

1. WE WELCOME THE STATEMENT IN REFTEL C THAT THE BULK OF THE 5,000 PAROLES OF KHMER APPROVED BY THE CONGRESS WILL BE USED BY REFUGEES WHO ARRIVED IN THAILAND BY THEIR OWN MEANS. THIS SHOULD EASILY COVER THOSE CITED IN REFTELS A AND B. THESE KHMERS ARE CLEARLY DEFINABLE AS REFUGEES WITH WHOM THE UNITED STATES HAS A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP AND FOR WHOM WE HAVE CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES.

2. IT IS INCREASINGLY EVIDENT, AS WE HAVE REPORTED, THAT THE THAI ARE NOT RECEPTIVE TO ANY OVERTURES BY US ON BEHALF OF THE UNHCR ITSELF OR ITS ROLE IN THE REFUGEE BUSINESS.

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THE UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE IS PLAINLY INEFFECTUAL AND WE

WOULD DELUDE OURSELVES IF WE THOUGHT ANY FURTHER EFFORT TO INVOLVE HIM WOULD BE FRUITFUL. WE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT THERE WILL BE NO PROGRESS FROM HERE ON RESETTLING MORE THAN A FEW CAMBODIAN REFUGEES IN OTHER COUNTRIES, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF FRANCE. NOR IS IT LIKELY THAT THE RTG WILL PERMIT REFUGEES IN THE CATEGORIES LISTED BELOW TO REMAIN IN THAILAND LONG ENOUGH FOR THEM TO DELIBERATE ABOUT RETURNING TO CAMBODIA.

3. A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE REMAINING PROBLEM:

A. 375 KHMER MILITARY AND THEIR DEPENDENTS WHO IN A PLAN ENCOURAGED BY U.S. OFFICIALS BROUGHT OUT MAP TITLED EQUIPMENT OF VALUE TO THE USG.

B. 200 KHMER LEADERS, CIVIL SERVANTS, AND DEPENDENTS WHO FACE GRAVE RISK OF PERSECUTION IN CAMBODIA.

C. 480 KHMER MILITARY AND DEPENDENTS IN MAP FUNDED TRAINING IN THAILAND.

D. 50 KHMER MILITARY WHO ESCAPED OVERLAND OR BY BOAT TO THAILAND.

E. 100 KHMER DIPLOMATS, ATTACHES AND EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

THIS MAKES A TOTAL OF 1,205. (THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 6,000 KHMER REFUGEES IN THAILAND, INCLUDING THOSE WHOM THE USG EVACUATED AND HAS CARED FOR.)

4. SPECIAL ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THE KHMER AIR FORCE PERSONNEL WHO BROUGHT OUT MAP FUNDED EQUIPMENT AND UNDERSTANABLY BELIEVE THAT PRIOR U.S. CONSULTATION ON THIS ACTION IMPLIED A U.S. COMMITMENT TO THEM FOR ASSISTANCE IN RESETTLEMENT IN THE U.S. A SEPARATE CABLE WILL TRANSMIT A PETITION FROM THIS GROUP TO THE PRESIDENT.

5. WE KNOW THAT WE MUST SOONER OR LATER DO SOMETHING TO HELP THESE REFUGEES, AND THE SOONER THE BETTER FOR US  
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MORALLY AS WELL AS POLITICALLY. CONGRESS HAS AUTHORIZED THE REQUIRED PAROLES. WE NOW NEED VOLAG SPONSORS AND TRANSPORTATION TO STAGING AREAS IN THE U.S.

6. WE HAVE THUS FAR DONE WELL BY OUR FORMER KHMER EMPLOYEES. WE MUST NOW MOVE QUICKLY AND PROPERLY TO CARE FOR THE REMAINING KHMER REFUGEES IN THAILAND FOR WHOM THE USG HAS A PATENT RESPONSIBILITY.

MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 01 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** AEMR, SREF, CB, TH  
**To:** STATE  
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